Amendments to the Specification:

Please insert the following paragraph at page 1, line 5:

-- This application claims benefit of priority under 35 U.S.C. §371 to PCT application No. PCT/US99/26610, filed November 10, 1999, which claims benefit under 35 U.S.C. §119 to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/110,266, filed on November 30, 1998, whose contents are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

--Confirmation of this 1 G/2 G difference in the leukocyte clone sequence and the A2058 melanoma sequence, to be a SNP and not a mutation, was performed. A radiolabeled PCR assay using primers that flank the variation to amplify a product of either 148 bp (1 G), 149 bp (2 G), or both (heterozygous) in genomic DNA was developed. One hundred control DNAs derived from the CEPH pedigrees (~~http://www. cephb. fr/cephdb/~~ cephb with the extension .fr/cephdb/ of the world-wide web) were then assayed to determine the frequency of this variation within a population. Only the parents in the pedigrees were used to avoid biasing the results through inheritance. In addition to the CEPH control DNAs, the frequency of this SNP in several tumor cell lines, including the A2058 melanoma cells, was assessed. The occurrence of 2 G homozygotes in the CEPH controls was determined to be approximately 30%. In the tumor cells lines, it is 62.5% ($P<0.0001$).--